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(TEXT)

WASHINGTON -- TEXT OF PRESS SECRETARY SALINGER'S STATEMENT ON
FORMER VICE PRESIDENT NIXON'S PUBLISHED COMMENTS ABOUT CUBA:

"THE PRESIDENT DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT INTELLIGENCE BRIEFINGS ARE
A PROPER SUBJECT OF PUBLIC DEBATE BUT IN THE LIGHT OF THE ACCOUNT IN
MR. NIXON'S BOOK IT IS NECESSARY TO SAY THAT THE THEN SEN. KENNEDY
WAS NOT TOLD BEFORE THE ELECTION OF 1960 OF THE TRAINING OF TROOPS
OUTSIDE OF CUBA OR OF ANY PLANS FOR 'SUPPORTING AN INVASION IN CUBA.'

"MR. NIXON'S ACCOUNT IS APPARENTLY BASED ON A MISUNDERSTANDING.
SEN. KENNEDY RECEIVED TWO BRIEFINGS FROM MR. ALLEN DULLES ON THE CIA.
THE FIRST ON JULY 23, 1960, AND THE SECOND ON SEPT. 19, 1960. THE
TWO BRIEFINGS COVERED AN OVERALL REVIEW OF THE WORLD SITUATION DURING
WHICH CUBA WAS MENTIONED. BUT SEN. KENNEDY WAS FIRST INFORMED OF THE
OPERATION TO WHICH MR. NIXON REFERS IN A BRIEFING BY ALLEN DULLES AND
RICHARD BISSEL OF THE CIA GIVEN IN PALM BEACH, FLA., ON NOV. 18, 1960."

(END TEXT)

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